PATENT Do. No. 4164-55

In The United States Patent and Trademark Office

In re application of: John F. Acres et al

Serial No.

08/922,046

Examiner:

J. Schaaf

Filed:

September 2, 1997

Group Art Unit:

For:

COMPUTER NETWORK FOR CONTROLLING AND MONITORING

GAMING DEVICES

Date:

December 22, 1998

Hand Delivered

Box Fee Amendment Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks,

Washington, D.C. 20231

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Responsive to the Office Action, dated August 4, 1998, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

(once amended) A method of operating gaming devices interconnected by a computer network to a host computer having a user-operated input device comprising:

associating each gaming device with a unique address code;

selecting less than all of the gaming devices interconnected by the computer network responsive to a user-effected action at the input device which identifies the selected gaming devices with the respective associated address codes;

using the network to track activity of the selected gaming devices;

allocating a predetermined percentage of the money wagered to a bonus pool;

determining a bonus award to be paid from the bonus pool at one of said selected gaming

devices:

generating data indicating the amount of the bonus award; 01/12/1999 EBEHBRY 00000001 08322046

02 FC:203 03 FC:216

Do. No. 4164-55

1